

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with David G. Posz (Reg. No. 37,701) on February 1, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows: In claim 2, Line 2, the term "driver" has been changed to -- driver's seat --.

In claim 4, Line 2, the term "driver" has been changed to -- driver's seat --.

In claim 6, Line 2, the term "driver" has been changed to -- driver's seat --.

In claim 7, Line 2, the term "driver" has been changed to -- driver's seat --.

In addition the following change is required for clarity and consistency: In claim 2, Line ¹⁴~~13~~, the term "driver" has been changed to -- driver's seat --. KW 3/2/07

In claim 4, Line 14, the term "driver" has been changed to -- driver's seat --.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 2-7 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art does not disclose a knee-protecting airbag device located below a steering column in front of a driver and, at a lower side of a key cylinder into which an ignition key with accessories is inserted, wherein the airbag further comprises a reinforcing cloth is